

10/589760

IAP11 Rec'd PCT/PTO 17 AUG 2006

ATTORNEY'S DOCKET HOS-76  
PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the application of:            )  
  )  
Kikuo YAMADA                           )  
  )  
Serial No. Unassigned                 )  
  )  
Filed:       Concurrently             )

Group Art Unit:

Examiner: Unknown

For: **CLEANING TOOL AND METHOD OF MANUFACTURING CLEANING PART  
THEREOF**

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

An Information Disclosure Statement is submitted herewith pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97-1.98. Please note the following particulars:

[NOTE: One only of items a, b, c, and d must be checked.]

[X ] a. The enclosed statement is being filed within three months of the filing date of a national application, or within three months of the date of entry into the national stage as set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.491 in an international application, or before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits, whichever event occurs last.

[ ] b. The enclosed statement is being filed after a first action on the merits but before the mailing date of a final action under 37 C.F.R. §1.113, or a notice of allowance under 37 C.F.R. §1.311.

The enclosed statement is accompanied by [check one]:

[ ] i. a certification in part (e) below as specified in 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e), or

[ ] ii. a check in the amount of \$           required by 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p).

[ ] c. The enclosed statement is being filed after the mailing date of a final action under 37 C.F.R. §1.113, or a notice of allowance under 37 C.F.R. §1.311, but before payment of the issue fee.

PETITION: It is requested that the information being submitted be considered. [NOTE: If box (c) is checked, the following two boxes must be checked.]

☐ PETITION FEE: A check for \$180.00 required by 37 CFR \$1.17(p), is enclosed.

☐ CERTIFICATION is attended to in box (e) below.

☐ d. The enclosed statement is being filed pursuant to 37 C.F.R. \$1.97(i), for placement in the file.

☐ e. Certification [Check one] [Certification is required only if box (b)(i) or box (c) is checked.]

☐ I hereby certify that each item of information contained in the enclosed Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement,

or

☐ I hereby certify that no item of information in the enclosed Information Disclosure Statement herewith was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, or, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. \$1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

or

☐ Appropriate certification is attached.

☒ f. If no check is enclosed and a fee is due in connection with this communication or if the check enclosed is insufficient, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any fee or additional fee due in connection with this communication to Deposit Account No. 19-1980.

Respectfully submitted,

**SHERMAN AND ASSOCIATES**

Attorney for Applicants

Robert L. Haines

Reg. No. 35,533

**SHERMAN AND ASSOCIATES**

415 N. Alfred Street

Alexandria, Virginia 22314

703-549-2282

HOS-76

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the application of:

Kikuo YAMADA

Serial No.: Unassigned

Group:

Filed: Concurrently

Examiner:

FOR: CLEANING TOOL AND METHOD OF MANUFACTURING CLEANING PART  
THEREOF

Date: August 17, 2006

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Sir:

In accordance with the obligation under 37 C.F.R. §1.56, Applicant would like to call the Examiner's attention to the documents listed on the attached form SB-08A (2 pages).

Applicant notes that Japanese documents A-C, E and F, together with U.S. Pub. 2004/0016074, listed on form SB-08A are listed in the International Search Report in the subject application, a copy of which is included herewith. Documents D and G are discussed in the specification of the present

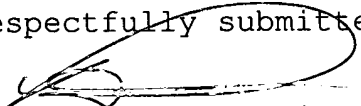
application at pages 1 and 2 thereof.

English language abstracts for the Japanese documents are provided herewith. In addition, Applicant notes that U.S. Patent 6,968,591 corresponds to JP2003-265389; U.S. Patent 6,813,801 corresponds to JP2002-369783; and U.S. Patent 6,329,308 corresponds to JP3208306. Applicant further notes that U.S. Pub. 2004/0016074 cited in the International Search Report is the U.S. publication of U.S. Patent 6,968,591.

Copies of the references listed on the accompanying form PTO/SB/08A and the International Search Report are provided for the Examiner's convenience.

Applicants are not aware at this time of any other prior art which could be considered to be relevant to the present application.

Respectfully submitted,



Attorney for Applicants  
Robert L. Haines  
Reg. No. 35,533

SHERMAN & ASSOCIATES  
P.O. BOX 788  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313  
(703) 549-2282

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

# INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

**(Use as many sheets as necessary)**

**Complete if Known**

Attorney Docket Number

HOS 76
--------

Sheet

1

of

2

[illegible]

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> -Number <sup>4</sup> -Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)	MM-DD-YYYY			
	A	JP2002-065541	03-05-2002	Nissen Chemitec Corp		
	B	JP10-328107	12-15-1998	Uni-Charm Corp		
	C	JP2003-039585	02-13-2003	Uni-Charm Corp		
	D	JP2004-298650	10-28-2004	Uni-Charm Corp		
	E	JP2003-265389	09-24-2003	Uni-Charm Corp		✓
	F	JP2002-369783	12-24-2002	Uni-Charm Corp		✓

Date  
Considered

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. <sup>1</sup>Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup>See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup>Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup>For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup>Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. <sup>6</sup>Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. **DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.**

*If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.*

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

**Complete if Known**

*(Use as many sheets as necessary)*

Sheet	2	of	2
-------	---	----	---

Application Number	
Filing Date	
First Named Inventor	Kikuo Yamada
Art Unit	
Examiner Name	
Attorney Docket Number	HQS 76

[illegible][illegible]Date  
Considered

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. <sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

*If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.*